

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 8, 17, and 25 have been amended. Claims 1-19 and 22-25 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

In the Office Action at page 2, the Examiner rejects claims 17-19 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

At page 2, the present application sets forth as described above, the interface system of the telecommunication terminal device for connecting the external terminal device with the PSTN in the countries using a serial connection system is different from that in the countries adopting a parallel connection system. Therefore, it is required to manufacture terminal devices to have different interface systems on a country or regional basis. That is, for countries such as Korea or the United States, a parallel type terminal device having the interface system shown in FIG. 1 is required. For countries such as Germany or Italy, a serial type terminal device having the interface system shown in FIG. 2 is required. (paragraph [008]).

As such, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 17-19 and 21-24 be withdrawn, and that claims 17-19 and 21-24 be allowed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action at pages 2-4, the Examiner rejects claims 1-6 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Streck (U.S. Patent No. 5,856,049). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action asserts that Streck discloses a standalone answering and switching unit (i.e., telecommunication terminal device) (Fig. 12, reference 42'; column 7, lines 11-20) for use with a telephone line (i.e., a public telephone network) that connects a telephone and a fax machine (i.e., external terminal devices of different types) to the network (Fig. 12, reference 10, 14). Streck further discloses a telephone line in connection (i.e., a first pin and a second pin) connecting to the telephone line (i.e., the public telephone network) (Fig. 12, reference 12; column 8, lines 53-56) and a connection (i.e., a third pin and a fourth pin) for a telephone (i.e., a first external terminal device of a first type) (Fig. 12, reference 10) that is connected to the telephone line through a switch (i.e., a first switching unit) (Fig. 12, reference 26; column 5, lines 55-65). Streck further discloses the switch selectively connects the telephone (i.e., first external terminal device) and a fax machine (i.e., a second external terminal device of a second type other than the first type) with the telephone line (i.e., the public telephone network) (column 5,

lines 55-65-emphasis added). Streck further discloses a connection for the fax machine (i.e., a first external terminal connection unit having at least a fifth pin and a sixth pin through which the second external terminal device is connected to the first and the second pins according to the first switching unit) (Fig. 12, reference 14; column 7, lines 45-48). Streck further discloses an answering module (i.e., a feeding circuit) (Fig. 12, reference 46; column 7, lines 36-38, 62-63) that answers incoming calls (i.e., keeps a current provided from the public network flowing).

By way of review, Streck merely discloses "The standard telephone, however, employs only the red and green wires as the so-called "tip" and "ring" pair. Thus, as shown in FIG. 15, the plug 60, in many cases, only connects the red and green wires 62. Thus, in the present invention when it is desired to control more than one telephone, the adapter plug 64 of FIG. 16 is employed and the previously described switching takes place as shown in FIGS. 17 and 18. The telephone at one of the outlets 58 is unplugged and the control unit 66 of the present invention is plugged therein in the usual manner with a plug 60 connected to all four of the wires 62 in the cable 56. Each of the remaining telephones 10 is plugged into its outlet through an adapter plug 64 of the type shown in FIG. 16 which causes the telephones to be connected in parallel to the unused black and yellow wires 62. As depicted in FIG. 17, when the control unit 66 of the present invention desires to connect the telephones 10 to the telephone line 12, the switching function of switch 26 operates to connect the signal on the red and green wires 62 to the yellow and black wires 62. On the other hand, as depicted in FIG. 18, when the control unit 66 of the present invention desires to connect the FAX machine 14 to the telephone line 12, the switching function of switch 26 operates to connect the signal on the red and green wires 62 to the red and green wires 62 connected to the FAX machine 14." (col. 8, line 59 through col. 9, line 27-emphasis added). It clearly shows that the connection types of the telephone 10 and FAX machine 14 are the same connection type interface. Therefore, Streck fails to disclose "the first switching unit to selectively connect the first external terminal device and a second external terminal device of a second connection type interface other than the first connection type interface with the public telephone network" as recited in claim 1.

Accoringly it is respectfully submitted that Streck does not teach or suggest the invention recited in claim 1.

In addition, for similar rationale, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-6 and 9 depending from independent claim 1 are also in proper condition for allowance.

In the Office Action at pages 4-10, the Examiner rejects claims 8 and 10-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Klupt et al.(U.S. Patent No. 5,014,299). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 8 has been amended to clarify the present invention. No new matter is entered.

The Office Action sets forth that in Klupt et al. discloses a selector switch selects a voice communication mode (i.e., determines whether a first external terminal device is selected).

By way of review, Klupt et al. discloses that “the modem coupler functions in the data communication mode in which modem 16 then has access to the telephone system from the telephone set for conveyance of data to and from terminal 17” (col. 4, lines 17-21).

Furthermore Klupt et al. discloses that “in the voice communication mode, the switch is operated to cause poles P₁ and P₂ to then engage fixed contacts C₁ and C₂. This pair of contacts is connected to terminals T₃ and T₄ of phone jack 25 connected by set cord 11 to telephone set 10” (col. lines 36-41). As such, Klupt et al. discloses checking steps whether a voice mode or a data communication mode” but fails to disclose “determining whether a first external terminal device of the first connection type interface is selected” as recited in amended claim 8.

Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that Klupt et al. does not teach or suggest the invention recited in claim 8.

In addition, for similar rationale, it is respectfully submitted that claims 10-16 depending from independent claim 1 are also in proper condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 17, the office action sets forth that Klupt et al. discloses a modem coupler that corresponds to the terminal device claimed and is used with a telephone set and a modem (i.e. external terminal devices of different type).

Claim 17 has been amended to clarify the features of the invention.

By way of review, the modem coupler functions in the data communication mode in which modem 16 then has access to the telephone system from the telephone set for conveyance of data to and from terminal 17” (col. 4, lines 17-21-emphasis added). Furthermore Klupt et al. discloses that “in the voice communication mode, the switch is operated to cause poles P₁ and P₂ to then engage fixed contacts C₁ and C₂. This pair of contacts is connected to terminals T₃ and T₄ of phone jack 25 connected by set cord 11 to telephone set 10” (col. Lines 36-41-emphasis added).

As mentioned above, Klupt et al. discloses a system to operate two different type of communication modes but fails to disclose “a first external terminal connection unit which serially connects a serial-type external terminal device having a serial-type connector to the public telephone network using the network connection unit according to a first switching unit being in a first state; a second external terminal connection unit which connects a parallel-type external terminal device having a parallel-type connector in parallel to the public telephone network using the network connection unit according to the first switching unit being in a second state” as

recited in claim 17.

Therefore, for at least the above, it is respectfully requested that this rejection of independent claim 17 be withdrawn and independent claim 17 be allowed.

In addition, claims 18-19, 21-23 and 24 are deemed patentable due at least to their depending from claim 17.

Regarding claim 25, the office action sets forth that Klupt et al. discloses if a modem is to be connected to a telephone network, it establishes a two-wire serial (i.e., first type of) connection between the telephone network and the mode. If a telephone set is to be connected to a telephone network, it establishes a four-wire parallel (i.e., second type of) connection between the telephone network the telephone set.

Claim 25 has been amended to clarify the present invention.

By way of review, Klupt et al. discloses "Also included in modem coupler MC is a selector switch 29 which in one operating position causes the modem to function in the voice communication mode wherein the user of the telephone sets makes and receives calls as in the conventional FIG. 1 arrangement. In the other operable position of the switch, the modem coupler functions in the data communication mode in which modem 16 then has access to the telephone system from the telephone set for conveyance of data to and from terminal 17. In the data communication mode, the telephone set sends a control signal to the KSU that causes a central office line seizure. The modem than has access to a central office line, goes off hook to dial the receiving computer terminal or facsimile." (col. 4, lines 21-25-emphasis added).

Furthermore, Klupt et al. discloses "In the data communication mode, switch 29 is operated to cause poles P.sub.1 and P.sub.2 to then engage fixed contacts C.sub.3 and C.sub.4. This pair of contacts is connected to coupler terminals T.sub.9 and T.sub.10 which are connected through cord 23 to modem 16. Thus in the voice communication mode, telephone set 10 is connected by switch 29 to the ring and tip terminals T.sub.1 and T.sub.2 of the modem coupler, which in the data communication mode, modem 16 is connected to these terminals." (col. 4, lines 49-56). As noted above, Klupt et al. merely discloses data communication mode and voice communication but fails to disclose "if a second external terminal device of a second connection type interface other than the first connection type interface is to be connected through the telecommunication terminal device to the public telephone network, establishing the second connection type interface between the public telephone network and the second external terminal device corresponding to the second connection type interface" as recited in claim 25.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 25 be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

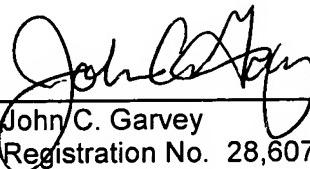
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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